

House Bill 490

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57<sup>th</sup>, Ashe of the 56<sup>th</sup>, Borders of the 175<sup>th</sup>, and Murphy of the 120<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

To amend Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, so as to change certain provisions relating to HOPE scholarships at public postsecondary institutions; to provide that courses taken as postsecondary options shall not be included in HOPE hour limits for students who graduate from high school; to change certain provisions relating to HOPE scholarships at private postsecondary institutions to provide that courses taken as postsecondary options shall not be included in HOPE hour limits for students who graduate from high school; to change certain provisions relating to HOPE grants at a branch of the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education to provide that courses taken as postsecondary options shall not be included in HOPE hour limits for students who graduate from high school; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended by striking subsection (g) of Code Section 20-3-519.2, relating to eligibility requirements for HOPE scholarships at public postsecondary institutions, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

“(g)(1) Except as set out in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a student may receive the HOPE scholarship until the first of these events:

(A) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree; or

(B) The student has attempted at any postsecondary institution a total of 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours.

(2) A student enrolled in an undergraduate degree program designed to be more than 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours in length is eligible to receive the HOPE scholarship for the lesser of:

(A) A total of 225 attempted quarter hours or 150 attempted semester hours; or

(B) The number of hours required for graduation if the student has a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 after the term in which the student attempted 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours.

(3) For purposes of this subsection, attempted hours shall include hours for courses taken pursuant to Code Section 20-2-161.1, unless the student graduated from high school."

## SECTION 2.

Said part is further amended by striking subsection (f) of Code Section 20-3-519.3, relating to eligibility requirements for HOPE scholarships at private postsecondary institutions, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"(f)(1) Except as set out in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a student may receive a HOPE scholarship until the first of these events:

(A) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree; or

(B) The student has attempted at any postsecondary institution a total of 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours.

(2) A student enrolled in an undergraduate degree program designed to be more than 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours in length is eligible to receive a HOPE scholarship for the lesser of:

(A) A total of 225 attempted quarter hours or 150 attempted semester hours; or

(B) The number of hours required for graduation if the student has a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 after the term in which the student attempted 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours.

(3) For purposes of this subsection, attempted hours shall include hours for courses taken pursuant to Code Section 20-2-161.1, unless the student graduated from high school."

## SECTION 3.

Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (e) of Code Section 20-3-519.5, relating to eligibility for HOPE grants at a branch of the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"(e) No student may receive HOPE grants for more than 95 quarter hours or 63 semester hours of attempted coursework, except as provided for in subsection (f) of this Code section. No student may receive more than a cumulative total of 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours of combined HOPE scholarships and grants, unless in accordance with Code Sections 20-3-519.2 and 20-3-519.3. For purposes of this subsection, attempted hours shall include hours for courses taken pursuant to Code Section 20-2-161.1, unless the student graduated from high school."

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- SECTION 4.
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- All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.